

Next 6 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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(THE NEW YORK TIMES)

"TOP FIGURES IN KREMLIN TREATED BY NINE ACCUSED SOVIET DOCTORS"

"Thorez of France, Dimitrov of Bulgaria and Kalinin Among Those in Their Care  
--Yegorov Virtually Court Physician"

"The nine Soviet doctors accused in Moscow of a plot to kill political and military leaders by medical sabotage include the elite in the Soviet medical profession, men responsible for treating not only the highest Kremlin figures but also the highest foreign Communists who come to Moscow for medical treatment.

According to diplomatic researchers, Maurice Thorez, French Communist leader who has been in Moscow receiving medical treatment for two years, the late Georgi Dimitrov, Communist hero of the Reichstag fire trial in Germany and later dictator of Bulgaria, and the late Marshal Choivalsan of the Mongolian People's Republic all were under the care of these doctors. The late Mikhail I. Kalinin, former President of the Soviet Union, also was one of their patients.

The most important medical figure among the accused is undoubtedly Prof. P.I. Yegorov who, as head of the Kremlin's Medical and Sanitary Services Administration, was virtually court physician to the highest leaders of the Soviet Union from about 1947 until recently.

He signed the death certificates not only of the late Andrei A. Zhdanov of the Soviet Politburo in 1948, but also of Mr. Dimitrov in July, 1949 and Marshal Choivalsan in January last year. At the time of Mr. Dimitrov's death there was much speculation that he might have been murdered at Premier Stalin's order for fear that he was sympathetic to Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia, who broke with Moscow.

Prof. V.N. Vinogradov, who is now accused of being 'an agent of British imperialism,' has long been one of the most celebrated figures in Soviet medicine. As recently as Feb. 26 last year the Soviet press printed a decree signed by Politburo member Nikolai M. Shvernik awarding Professor Vinogradov, on his seventieth birthday, the Order of Lenin 'for extraordinary merits in the field of applied medicine and in the development of Soviet medical science.'

In June, 1946, Professor Vinogradov signed the death certificate for President Kalinin, one of the veteran top Communist leaders since the earliest days of the regime. In November, 1950, the French Communist press reported that M. Thorez was being treated in Moscow by Professor Vinogradov and also by another doctor on the list of the accused, Prof. A.K. Grinstein.

Observers noted yesterday that two of the five signers of the death certificate for General Zhdanov had not been accused of any crimes in the Moscow reports. These are Dr. V. Vasilenko and Dr. A. Fedorov, both non-Jews and both men whose names on that death certificate ranked ahead of one of the accused, Dr. B.L. Maiorov.

All of the doctors accused, as well as the two who have not been charged, were listed in the Moscow telephone directory issued in late 1951. Three of the accused, Drs. Yegorov, Grinstein and N.B. Kogan, lived in the same apartment house as Drs. Vasilenko and Fedorov at 57-65 Novoslobotskaya Street in Moscow.

The fact that the accused doctors have signed death certificates for many Soviet dignitaries besides the two they are accused of murdering, General Zhdanov and Gen. A.S. Schcherbakov, indicates that the Soviet Government can enlarge the number of murders ascribed to them."

"One Government student of Soviet affairs said that all medical treatment for top Kremlin leaders was discussed by the highest corporate leadership of the party, formerly the Politburo and now presumably the Presidium. Therefore, he added, the treatment given those said to have been murdered must have been discussed and approved by the Politburo at the time."

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 "Echoes in Prague Trial"

"VIENNA, Jan. 14 - Moscow's allegation that a group of doctors, most of them Jewish, had been trying to bring about the death of Soviet Communist leaders was foreshadowed by a somewhat similar allegation during the recent trial of Rudolf Slansky for treason in Prague.

According to the indictment M. Slansky, general secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist party, bearing in mind that in case of seizure of power it would be necessary to get rid of President Klement Gottwald 'selected as his personal doctors out of hostile surroundings persons with a nefarious past and established close contact with them because he counted on using them in his hostile plans.'

The indictment added:

'Slansky was in closest connection with Dr. Haskovec who treated Klement Gottwald from 1945 to 1951 and reported systematically to Slansky on Gottwald's state of health and received from Slansky fresh instructions. Slansky knew the nefarious past of Haskovec, that he was from a bourgeois family and was a Free Mason and collaborator.'

M. Slansky himself 'confessed' that 'As an enemy of the Communist party I supported Dr. Haskovec, personal physician of the President.'

'I concealed from the President that he had to do with an enemy and that Haskovec was not treating Gottwald as was necessary but working with a view to shortening his life,' he added.

In the Slansky trial the American Joint Distribution Committee, with which the doctors now arrested in Russia are alleged to have had relations, was also cited as 'in reality a branch of the American espionage service.'"

MOSCOW - January 13, 1953

(TASS)-- Some time ago the state security organs uncovered a terrorist group of physicians who set themselves the task of shortening the lives of Soviet leaders by means of injurious treatment.

The members of this terrorist group were: Prof. M.S. Vovsi; Prof. V.N. Vinogradov; Prof. M.B. Kogan; Prof. B.B. Kogan; Prof. P.I. Yegorov; Prof. A.S. Feldman, Otolaryngologist; Y.G. Etinger; Prof. A. Grinshtein; Neuro-pathologist; and G.I. Mayorov.

The documents, the investigations, the opinion of medical experts, and the confessions of the arrested prove that the criminals, being secret enemies of the people, subjected their patients to injurious treatment and undermined their health. As a result of investigation it was established that the members of the terrorist group, utilizing their positions as physicians and abusing the trust of the patients, deliberately and villainously undermined their health, purposely ignored the results of objective examination of the patients, made incorrect diagnoses which did not correspond to the actual nature of the illness, and then killed them through incorrect treatment.

The criminals confessed that, having availed themselves of Comrade A.A. Zhdanov's illness, they made an incorrect diagnosis of his disease and, concealing the myocardial infarction from which he suffered, prescribed a regimen which was contraindicated for this serious illness and thereby killed him.

It has been established through investigation that the criminals also shortened the life of Comrade A.S. Shcherbakov, incorrectly applied strong medicines for his treatment, introduced an experimental regimen, and thus caused his death.

The criminal physicians tried first of all to undermine the health of leading Soviet military cadres, to disable them, and to weaken the defense of the country. They tried to disable Marshals A.M. Vasilevsky, L.A. Govorov, and I.S. Konev, Army General S.M. Shtemenko, Admiral G.I. Levchenko, and others. But the arrest thwarted their villainous plan, and the criminals failed to achieve their goal.

It has been established that all these physicians -- murderers who became the fiends of the human race, trampled underfoot the sacred banner of science, and desecrated the honor of scientists -- were paid agents of foreign intelligence service.

Most of the participants in the terrorist group -- M.S. Vovsi, B.B. Kogan, A.I. Feldman, A.M. Grinshtein, Y.G. Etinger, and others -- were connected with "JOINT", the international Jewish bourgeois nationalist organization, set up by the American Intelligence Service, allegedly for tendering material aid to Jews in other countries. But actually this organization under the guidance of the American Intelligence Service conducts broad-scale espionage and terrorist and subversive activities in a number of countries including the Soviet Union. Vovsi stated during interrogation that he had received a directive "to exterminate the leading cadres of the USSR" from the "JOINT" organization in the United States through the Moscow physician Shimeliovich and the well-known Jewish bourgeois nationalist Mikhoels.

Other members of the terrorist group -- V.N. Vinogradov, M.B. Kogan, P.I. Yegorov -- proved to be agents of the British Intelligence Service of long standing.

The investigation will be completed in the near future.

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MOSCOW - January 13, 1953

("PRAVDA" front-page editorial)

**"BASE SPIES AND KILLERS UNDER THE MASK OF PROFESSORS AND DOCTORS"**

The exposing of a clique of doctor poisoners is a blow against the international Jewish Zionist organization. Now all can see the "well-doers" and "friends" who are hidden under the nameplate of "JOINT".

The bosses of the United States and their British "junior partners" know that it is impossible to attain domination over other nations by peaceful means. Feverishly preparing for a new world war, they are diligently sending their spies into the USSR and the People's Democracies, trying to do what the Hitlerites were unable to do -- set up a "fifth column" in the USSR.

The Soviet people attained an unprecedented victory during the Great Fatherland War. In an unheard-of short time the serious consequences of the war were liquidated. In all sectors of economic and cultural construction work can we show successes.

From these facts some people draw the conclusion that the danger of wrecking, diversion, and espionage no longer exists, that the bosses of the Capitalist world can give up their attempts to engage in subversive activities against the USSR. Only right-wing opportunists, people who base themselves on the anti-Marxist point of view of "extinguishing" the class struggle, can think and reason in this fashion.

They do not understand, or could not understand, that our successes do not result in an extinguishing but in an intensification of the struggle, that the more successful our forward movement will become, the more intensified will be the struggle of the enemies of the people who, doomed to destruction, are led to despair. This is what the immortal Lenin taught; thus teaches Comrade Stalin.

"Our revolution," points out Lenin, "more than any other, has confirmed the law that the strength of a revolution is the strength of onslaught, energy, and determination, and that the triumph of its victory at the same time increases the force of opposition from the bourgeoisie."

Exposing the opportunist theory about the "extinguishing" of the class struggle, in relation to our successes, Comrade Stalin warned: "This is not only a rotten theory but a dangerous theory, for it lulls our people to sleep -- leads them into a trap, while giving the class enemy the opportunity to rally for the struggle against the Soviet regime."

In the USSR the exploiting classes have long been routed and liquidated, but remnants of bourgeois ideology, remnants of private-property psychology and morality have been preserved. There have also been preserved the carriers of bourgeois opinions and bourgeois morality -- live people, hidden enemies of our nation. It is precisely these hidden enemies supported by the Imperialist world, who will continue to do harm also in the future. This makes it incumbent on Soviet people in all manner to strengthen revolutionary vigilance and to watchfully keep an eye on the intrigues of the enemy.

The fact that a group of despicable degenerates from among "Men of Sciences" were able for a time to be active with impunity shows that a number of our Soviet organs and their leaders have lost vigilance and have fallen prey to loafing. The organs of state security did not discover in good time the wrecking terrorist organization among doctors.

These organs should have been particularly vigilant, for history has acquainted us with examples: base killers and traitors of the Motherland, the "Doctors" Levin and Pletnev, performing under the mask of doctors and on instructions of the enemies of the Soviet Union, killed by deliberately incorrect treatment the great Russian writer A.M. Gorky and the outstanding leaders of the Soviet State V.V. Kuibyshev and V.R. Menzhinsky.

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The leaders of the USSR Ministry of Health also fell down on their job. They overlooked the wrecking terrorist activities of the odious degenerates who sold themselves to the enemies of the Soviet Union.

The exposing of a clique of doctor poisoners is a crushing blow against the American-British warmongers. Their agency has been caught and rendered harmless. The true face of the cannibalistic slave owners from the United States and Britain is revealed again before the whole world.

The Soviet people curse with wrath and indignation the criminal band of killers and their foreign bosses. They will crush the despicable hirelings who sold themselves for dollars and sterling, like a venomous reptile.

As far as the inspirers of these hireling killers are concerned, they may be sure that nemesis will not forget them and will find its way to them in order to deliver its verdict.

All this is of course true. But it is also true that apart from these enemies there is another enemy among us: the loafing of our people. There can be no doubt that as long as loafing exists in our country wrecking will exist too. Consequently, in order to liquidate wrecking, one must put an end to loafing in our ranks.